

Claims;

1. An ink jet recording apparatus which comprises a section which forms an ink image by ejecting an ultraviolet radiation curable ink from an ink jet recording head onto a recording material and a section which exposes ultraviolet radiation to the ink image formed on the recording material, wherein the ink jet recording apparatus has a plurality of recording modes each having a different image recording speed in each mode, and an exposure intensity of ultraviolet radiation exposing to the ink is variable.
2. The ink jet recording apparatus of claim 1, wherein the image recording speed is varied by
  - (a) varying the relative speed of an ink jet nozzle with respect to the recording material,
  - (b) varying recording resolution, or
  - (c) varying pass frequency of an interleave system.
3. The ink jet recording apparatus of claim 1, wherein the exposure intensity of ultraviolet radiation is varied by varying the exposure area of ultraviolet radiation or varying an illumination intensity of ultraviolet radiation.

4. The ink jet recording apparatus of claim 1, which further comprises a control section which maintains a nearly constant energy amount per unit area of ultraviolet radiation exposing to the recording material, independent of the image recording speed.

5. The ink jet recording apparatus of claim 1, wherein an exposure intensity of ultraviolet radiation exposing to the ink is varied corresponding to the image recording speed.

6. An ink jet recording method which forms an ink image by ejecting an ultraviolet radiation curable ink from an ink jet recording head onto a recording material and subsequently exposing ultraviolet radiation to the ink image, wherein the ink jet recording method comprises a plurality of recording modes having a different image recording speed in each mode and an exposure intensity of ultraviolet radiation exposing to the ink is variable.

7. The ink jet recording method of claim 6, wherein the image recording speed is varied by

- (a) varying the relative speed of an ink jet nozzle with respect to the recording material,
- (b) varying recording resolution, or
- (c) varying pass frequency of an interleave system.

8. The ink jet recording method of claim 6, wherein the exposure intensity of ultraviolet radiation is varied by varying the exposure area of ultraviolet radiation or varying the illumination intensity of ultraviolet radiation.

9. The ink jet recording method of claim 6, which comprises a control section which maintains a nearly constant energy amount per unit area of ultraviolet radiation exposed to a recording material, independent of the image recording speed.